

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 07875 031648Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 DHA-02 CU-02 /056 W
-----031732Z 056460 /50

O R 031615Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8229
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USIA WAHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 7875

USIA FOR IEU, IOP, IPS, IBS AND

BELGRADE ALSO FOR CSCE DEL

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, CSCE, UR,US
SUBJECT: FIRST SOVIET COMMENTARY ON SHCHARANSKIY CASE

REF: MOSCOW 7922 NOTAL

1. TASS ENGLISH AND FRENCH WIRES JUNE 3 CARRY A COMMENTARY
BY POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT YURIY KORNILOV ON SHCHARANSKIY.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 07875 031648Z

KORNILOV STATES THAT SHCHARANSKIY WAS "COMMISSIONED BY AN
UNKNOWN LERNER TO ORGANIZE THE COVERT COLLECTION OF INFORMA-
TION ABOUT SOVIET ORGANIZATIONS AND PLANTS OPERATING FOR
DEFENSE, "AND WAS MEMBER OF GROUP WHICH HAD "ASSISTANCE TO
CIA AGENTS" ON ITS AGENDA. HE SAYS THAT THE SHCHARANSKIY CASE IS
UNDER INVESTIGATION AND THAT THE SOVIET JUDICIARY CANNOT BE IN-
FLUENCED BY PEOPLE IN THE USSR "OR INCIDENTALLY IN THE

USA AND OTHER COUNTRIES". SOVIET LAW IS THE SAME FOR ALL CITIZENS, ASSERTS KORNILOV. NEVERTHELESS, HE CONTINUES, THE AMERICAN PRESS AND EVEN OFFICIAL AMERICAN BODIES ARE BECOMING INVOLVED IN THE SHCHARANSKIY CAMPAIGN. KORNILOV STATES "IT WENT SO FAR THAT A STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN DECLARED THAT THE USG IS DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT THE SHCHARANSKIY CASE IS TO BE TRIED IN THE USSR. NEITHER MORE NOR LESS*"

2. KORNILOV ASKS RHETORICALLY WHAT THE AMERICAN REACTION WOULD BE IF ANYONE TRIED TO PRESSURE THE AMERICAN JUDICIARY AND SAYS THAT IT WOULD, RIGHTLY, REJECT SUCH PRESSURE. HE DISMISSES AMERICAN INTEREST IN SHCHARANSKIY AS MEDDLING IN SOVIET INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND GOES ON TO STATE THAT "CERTAIN CIRCLES" IN THE USA ARE USING SHCHARANSKIY AS THE PRETEXT TO COMMENT ON ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE USSR. KORNILOV NOTES THAT IT IS NOT A COINCIDENCE THAT THE CAMPAIGN IS GOING ON ON THE EVE OF THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE.

3. COMMENT. THIS IS THE FIRST SOVIET COMMENTARY CONCERNING SHCHARANSKIY SINCE THE JUNE 1 PRESS CONFERENCE HELD BY DISSIDENTS (REFTEL), AT WHICH IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE WAS TO BE CHARGED UNDER ARTICLE 64. THE KORNILOV PIECE DOES NOT GIVE ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THE EXACT NATURE OF THE CHARGES AGAINST SHCHARANSKIY BUT LEAVES THE READER TO INFER TREASON. IT SAYS NOTHING ABOUT WHEN HIS TRIAL MIGHT OCCUR. THE COMMENT ABOUT THE US JUDICIARY IS A CLEVER ONE, AIMED TO EXPLOITING WESTERN SENSITIVITIES
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 07875 031648Z

RE HANDLING CASES WHICH ARE SUB JUDICE. IT IS INTERESTING THAT KORNILOV SHOULD HAVE MENTIONED IN THIS FIRST AND REMARKABLY RAPID COMMENTARY ON THE USG REACTION TO THE NEWS ABOUT SHCHARANSKIY. WE ARE ALSO STRUCK BY THE FACT THAT NO EMBASSY INVOLVEMENT IN SHCHARANSKIY'S CASE IS ALLEGED IN THIS STORY, ALTHOUGH IT CHARGES THAT A GROUP TO WHICH SHCHARANSKIY BELONGED SOUGHT TO ASSIST (UNNAMED) "CIA AGENTS".
MATLOCK

NOTE BY OC/T: REFERENCE APPARENTLY INCORRECT.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, ESPIONAGE, INFORMATION SECURITY, POLITICAL SITUATION, POLITICAL CRIMES, COLLECTIVE SECURITY AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW07875
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770198-0959
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770693/aaaaddor.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3059c785-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MOSCOW 7922
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2288635
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FIRST SOVIET COMMENTARY ON SHCHARANSKIY CASE
TAGS: PINT, UR, US, CSCE, (KORNILOV, YURITY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3059c785-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009